Case 2:11-cv-06943-JCJ Document 1 Filed 11/07/11 Page 1 of 11 CIVIL COVER SHEET

SJS 44 (Rev. 12/07, NJ 5/08)

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the state of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of the Clerk of Court for the Clerk of Court for the purpose of the Clerk of Court for the Clerk of Court for

the civil docket sheet. (SEE II	NSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)			
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDANTS		
NEGUIN GHADESI		NCO FINANCIA	AL SYSTEMS, INC.	
(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plaintiff	County of Residence	of First Listed Defendant	
(c) Attorney's (Firm Na	me, Address, Telephone Number and Email Add	ress) NOTE: IN LAN	ID CONDEMNATION CASES, U	SE THE LOCATION OF THE
Craig Thor Kimmel, E Kimmel & Silverman, 30 E. Butler Pike Ambler, PA 19002 (215) 540-8888	P.C.	LAND Attorneys (If Known)	INVOLVED.	
II. BASIS OF JURISI	OICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF P	'RINCIPAL PARTIES	
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)		TF DEF 1 Incorporated or Pr of Business In Thi	
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	1 2	
		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	J 3 G 3 Foreign Nation	□ 6 □ 6
IV. NATURE OF SUI	T (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	Poleigii Country		
CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
☐ 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY ☐ 210 Land Condemnation ☐ 220 Foreclosure	i ·	620 Other Food & Drug 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 630 Liquor I aws 640 R.R. & Truck 650 Airline Regs. 660 Occupational Safety/Health 690 Other LABOR 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act 740 Railway Labor Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	422 Appeal 28 USC 158	□ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations ■ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 810 Selective Service □ 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange □ 875 Customer Challenge □ 12 USC 3410 □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 892 Economic Stabilization Act □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 894 Energy Allocation Act □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 900Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
又 1 Original □ 2 Re	ate Court Appellate Court	Reopened another	ferred from Grant	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTI	ibilei description of cause.		at statutes unless diversity):	
YIII DROIECER	Fair Debt Collection Practices Ac			
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23	DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint:
VIII. RELATED CAS		1	DOCKET NUMBER	- 100 L/1W
Explanation:				
11-7-11	saren	///		
DATE	SIGNATURE OF	FATTORNEY OF RECORD		

Case 2:11-cv-069437461 spaces on 11

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — DESIGNATION FORM to I assignment to appropriate calendar.	be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of
Address of Plaintiff: 18740 Harleigh Drive, Saratoge	, CA 95070
Address of Defendant: 507 Prudential Road, Horsham	, PA 19044
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction:(Use Reverse Side For Accident, Incident or Transaction:	Additional Space
·	• '
Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation a	
(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a)	Yes□ No □
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?	Yes□ No 🗹
RELATED CASE, IF ANY: Judge Case Number:	Date Terminated:
Case Humber.	Date Terminated.
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions:	
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year.	
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior s	Yes□ No□ suit pending or within one year previously terminated
action in this court?	/
	Yes No V
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier r	
terminated action in this court?	Yes No No
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil right	
	$_{\mathrm{Yes}}\square$ $_{\mathrm{No}}\square$
CIVIL: (Place ✓ in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)	
A. Federal Question Cases:	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:
1. ☐ Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts	1. □ Insurance Contract and Other Contracts
2. □ FELA	2. □ Airplane Personal Injury
3. □ Jones Act-Personal Injury	3. □ Assault, Defamation
4. □ Antitrust	4. ☐ Marine Personal Injury
5. □ Patent	5. □ Motor Vehicle Personal Injury
6. □ Labor-Management Relations	6. □ Other Personal Injury (Please
	specify)
7. □ Civil Rights	7. □ Products Liability
8. □ Habeas Corpus	8. □ Products Liability — Asbestos
9. □ Securities Act(s) Cases	9. □ All other Diversity Cases
10. □ Social Security Review Cases	(Please specify)
11. All other Federal Question Cases 15 USC \$ 1692	
(Please specify)	TELC ATTION
ARBITRATION CERT	
I, Craia hor himme, counsel of record do hereby certif	y:
☐ Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;	belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of
Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	
11-7-11	57100
DATE:	
Attorney-at-Law NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if the	Attorney I.D.# re has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or	within one year previously terminated action in this count
except as noted above.	within one year previously terminated action in this court
11-7-11	57100
DATE: Attorney-at-Law	Attorney I.D.#
CIV. 609 (6/08)	•

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Neguin Ghades	:	CIVIL ACTION	CIVIL ACTION		
V	•				
NCO Financial Si	ystems, Inc.	NO.			
plaintiff shall complete a C filing the complaint and ser side of this form.) In the designation, that defendant	Case Management Track we a copy on all defenda event that a defendant shall, with its first appoarties, a Case Management	Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counse Designation Form in all civil cases at the tients. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reduces not agree with the plaintiff regarding earance, submit to the clerk of court and sent Track Designation Form specifying the e assigned.	ime of everse g said rve on		
SELECT ONE OF THE F	FOLLOWING CASE I	MANAGEMENT TRACKS:			
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 through § 2255.					
(b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits.					
(c) Arbitration – Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2.					
(d) Asbestos – Cases involence exposure to asbestos.	ving claims for persona	l injury or property damage from	()		
commonly referred to a	is complex and that need	nto tracks (a) through (d) that are d special or intense management by detailed explanation of special			
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(f) Standard Management – Cases that do not fall into any one of the other tracks.					
11-7-11	Craig Thor Kim	mel Neguin Chadesi Attorney for			
Date	Attorney-at-law	Attorney for			
215-540-8888	877-778-286	4 Kimmel @ creditlan). com		
Telephone	FAX Number	E-Mail Address			

(Civ. 660) 10/02

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE 2 EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA 3 NEGUIN GHADESI, 4 Plaintiff 5 Case No.: v. 6 7 NCO FINANCIAL SYSTEMS, INC., **COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL** 8 Defendant (Unlawful Debt Collection Practices) 9 10 **COMPLAINT** 11 NEGUIN GHADESI ("Plaintiff"), by and through her attorneys, KIMMEL & 12 SILVERMAN, P.C., alleges the following against NCO FINANCIAL SYSTEMS, INC. 13 ("Defendant"): 14 INTRODUCTION 15 Plaintiff's Complaint is based on the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 1. 16 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. ("FDCPA"). 17 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE** 18 2. 19 Jurisdiction of this court arises pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d), which states 20 that such actions may be brought and heard before "any appropriate United States district court 21 without regard to the amount in controversy," and 28 U.S.C. § 1331 grants this court original 22 jurisdiction of all civil actions arising under the laws of the United States. 23 3. Defendant has its corporate headquarters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 24 and as such, personal jurisdiction is established. 25 4. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1).

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PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff is a natural person residing in Saratoga, CA.
- 6. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(3).
- 7. Also, Plaintiff is a person granted a cause of action under the FDCPA. <u>See</u> 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a) and <u>Wenrich v. Cole</u>, 2000 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 18687 (E.D. Pa. Dec. 22, 2000).
- 8. Defendant is a national debt collection company with its corporate headquarters located at 507 Prudential Road, Horsham, PA 19044.
- 9. Defendant is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6), and repeatedly contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect a debt.
- 10. Defendant acted through its agents, employees, officers, members, directors, heirs, successors, assigns, principals, trustees, sureties, subrogees, representatives, and insurers.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 11. The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("FDCPA") is a comprehensive statute, which prohibits a catalog of activities in connection with the collection of debts by third parties.

 See 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. The FDCPA imposes civil liability on any person or entity that violates its provisions, and establishes general standards of debt collector conduct, defines abuse, and provides for specific consumer rights. 15 U.S.C. § 1692k.
- 12. The operative provisions of the FDCPA declare certain rights to be provided to or claimed by debtors, forbid deceitful and misleading practices, prohibit harassing and abusive tactics, and proscribe unfair or unconscionable conduct, both generally and in a specific list of disapproved practices.
- 13. In particular, the FDCPA broadly enumerates several practices considered contrary to its stated purpose, and forbids debt collectors from taking such action. The

substantive heart of the FDCPA lies in three broad prohibitions. First, a "debt collector may not engage in any conduct the natural consequence of which is to harass, oppress, or abuse any person in connection with the collection of a debt." 15 U.S.C. § 1692d. Second, a "debt collector may not use any false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of any debt." 15 U.S.C. § 1692e. And third, a "debt collector may not use unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt." 15 U.S.C. § 1692f. The FDCPA is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous collectors, whether or not there exists a valid debt, broadly prohibits unfair or unconscionable collection methods, conduct which harasses, oppresses or abuses any debtor, and any false, deceptive or misleading statements in connection with the collection of a debt.

- 14. In enacting the FDCPA, the United States Congress found that "[t]here is abundant evidence of the use of abusive, deceptive, and unfair debt collection practices by many debt collectors," which "contribute to the number of personal bankruptcies, to marital instability, to the loss of jobs, and to invasions of individual privacy." 15 U.S.C. § 1692a. Congress additionally found existing laws and procedures for redressing debt collection injuries to be inadequate to protect consumers. 15 U.S.C. § 1692b.
- 15. Congress enacted the FDCPA to regulate the collection of consumer debts by debt collectors. The express purposes of the FDCPA are to "eliminate abusive debt collection practices by debt collectors, to insure that debt collectors who refrain from using abusive debt collection practices are not competitively disadvantaged, and to promote consistent State action to protect consumers against debt collection abuses." 15 U.S.C. § 1692e.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 16. At all pertinent times hereto, Defendant was hired to collect a consumer debt and attempted to collect that debt from Plaintiff.
- 17. Upon information and belief, the debt arose out of transactions that were primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.
- 18. Beginning in September 2011, Defendant called Plaintiff on her home telephone on a continuous and repetitive basis in an attempt to collect a debt.
- 19. Defendant contacted Plaintiff, on average, between three (3) to four (4) times per day.
- 20. In addition to contacting Plaintiff multiple times a day, Defendant also contacted Plaintiff day after day, for example calling Plaintiff on October 1, 2011; October 2, 2011; October 3, 2011; October 4, 2011; and October 5, 2011, with the intent to harass Plaintiff by its constant, continuous, and repeated debt collection calls.
- 21. Most recently, Defendant contacted Plaintiff on October 5, 2011, at 9:27 a.m., in an attempt to collect a debt. See Exhibit A, a photo of Plaintiff's caller id.
- 22. Further, when contacting Plaintiff, Defendant used pre-recorded messages, encouraging Plaintiff to remain on the phone to speak with a live person.
- 23. When Plaintiff did so, she was never able to speak with a live person; instead, Defendant would hang up on her, frustrating Plaintiff, as she was unable to speak with anyone to inquire about the alleged debt and/or to instruct Defendant to stop contacting her.
- 24. Upon information and belief, Defendant called Plaintiff on a repetitive basis with the intent to harass Plaintiff into paying an alleged debt.
 - 25. The repetitive calls to Plaintiff were intended by Defendant to be disturbing,

harassing, and an invasion of privacy, so that Plaintiff would pay the alleged debt.

CONSTRUCTION OF APPLICABLE LAW

- 26. The FDCPA is a strict liability statute. <u>Taylor v. Perrin, Landry, deLaunay & Durand</u>, 103 F.3d 1232 (5th Cir. 1997). "Because the Act imposes strict liability, a consumer need not show intentional conduct by the debt collector to be entitled to damages." <u>Russell v. Equifax A.R.S.</u>, 74 F. 3d 30 (2d Cir. 1996); <u>see also Gearing v. Check Brokerage Corp.</u>, 233 F.3d 469 (7th Cir. 2000) (holding unintentional misrepresentation of debt collector's legal status violated FDCPA); <u>Clomon v. Jackson</u>, 988 F. 2d 1314 (2d Cir. 1993).
- 27. The FDCPA is a remedial statute, and therefore must be construed liberally in favor of the debtor. Sprinkle v. SB&C Ltd., 472 F. Supp. 2d 1235 (W.D. Wash. 2006). The remedial nature of the FDCPA requires that courts interpret it liberally. Clark v. Capital Credit & Collection Services, Inc., 460 F. 3d 1162 (9th Cir. 2006). "Because the FDCPA, like the Truth in Lending Act (TILA) 15 U.S.C §1601 et seq., is a remedial statute, it should be construed liberally in favor of the consumer." Johnson v. Riddle, 305 F. 3d 1107 (10th Cir. 2002).
- 28. The FDCPA is to be interpreted in accordance with the "least sophisticated" consumer standard. See Jeter v. Credit Bureau, Inc., 760 F.2d 1168 (11th Cir. 1985); Graziano v. Harrison, 950 F. 2d 107 (3rd Cir. 1991); Swanson v. Southern Oregon Credit Service, Inc., 869 F.2d 1222 (9th Cir. 1988). The FDCPA was not "made for the protection of experts, but for the public that vast multitude which includes the ignorant, the unthinking, and the credulous, and the fact that a false statement may be obviously false to those who are trained and experienced does not change its character, nor take away its power to deceive others less experienced." Id. The least sophisticated consumer standard serves a dual purpose in that it

ensures protection of all consumers, even naive and trusting, against deceptive collection practices, and protects collectors against liability for bizarre or idiosyncratic interpretations of collection notices. <u>Clomon</u>, 988 F. 2d at 1318.

COUNT I DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 29. In its actions to collect a debt, Defendant violated the FDCPA in one or more of the following ways:
 - a. Defendant violated the FDCPA generally;
 - b. Defendant violated §1692d of the FDCPA when it harassed, oppressed or abused Plaintiff in connection with the collection of a debt;
 - c. Defendant violated §1692d(5) of the FDCPA when caused Plaintiff's phone to ring repeatedly or continuously with the intent to annoy, abuse, or harass Plaintiff; and
 - d. Defendant violated §1692f of the FDCPA when it used unfair and unconscionable means in connection with the collection of a debt.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, NEGUIN GHADESI, respectfully prays for a judgment as follows:

- a. All actual damages suffered pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1);
- b. Statutor y damages of \$1,000.00 for the violation of the FDCPA pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(2)(A);
- c. All reasonable attorneys' fees, witness fees, court costs and other litigation costs incurred by Plaintiff pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1693k(a)(3); and
- d. Any other relief deemed appropriate by this Honorable Court.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff, NEGUIN GHADESI, demands a jury trial in

this case.

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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

By:

Craig Thor Kimmel

Attorney ID No. 57100

Tara L. Patterson

Attorney ID No. 88343

Kimmel & Silverman, P.C.

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